(c) when the plans will be actually implemented; and

(d) what will be its effect on coal production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Policy on Private Investment

1867. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whther Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appearing in 'Observer' of 28th June, 1995 regarding Policy of Private Investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to make a comprehensive and coordinated policy for attracting private investment in the infrastructure industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) in what manner the need for professionals for the preparation of project report by different Ministries is sought to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The news item refers to the suggestion of a Member of Planning Commission for setting up a committee for evolving comprehensive policy framework for private investments in the infrastructure sector. The policy regarding private investment in infrastructure sector has been laid down in the Eighth Plan document according to which the public sector will continue to play a dominant role in this area and will have the ultimate responsibility of meeting the demands. However, if private initiative comes forward to participate in creating such infrastructure on reasonable terms and with full protection of peoples interest such initiative would be encouraged. Specific details for attracting private investment in different infrastructures industries have to be finalised by respective Central Ministries/Departments of Government of india.

(e) The services of professionals including consultants are availed of by different Ministries for preparation of project reports as and when necessary.

Survey by Tobacco Board Regarding Beedi Tobacco Cultivation

1868. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tobacco Board has made any survey of the extent of beedi tobacco cultivation in various States;

(b) if so, the details of acreage and production, State-wise during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) whether there is any proposal to give more attention to farmers cultivating beedi tobacco; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Tobacco Boards establishes platforms for auction of Virginia tobacco grown by the registered growers. In accordance with the provisions of the Tobacco Board Act, only Virginia tobacco growers are registered by the Board. Presently the Tobacco Board has no scheme for production and marketing of beedi tobacco.

More Funds to Gujarat for Development

1869. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allocate more funds to Gujarat for the development of small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;